FROM THE WORLD OF HELLBOY

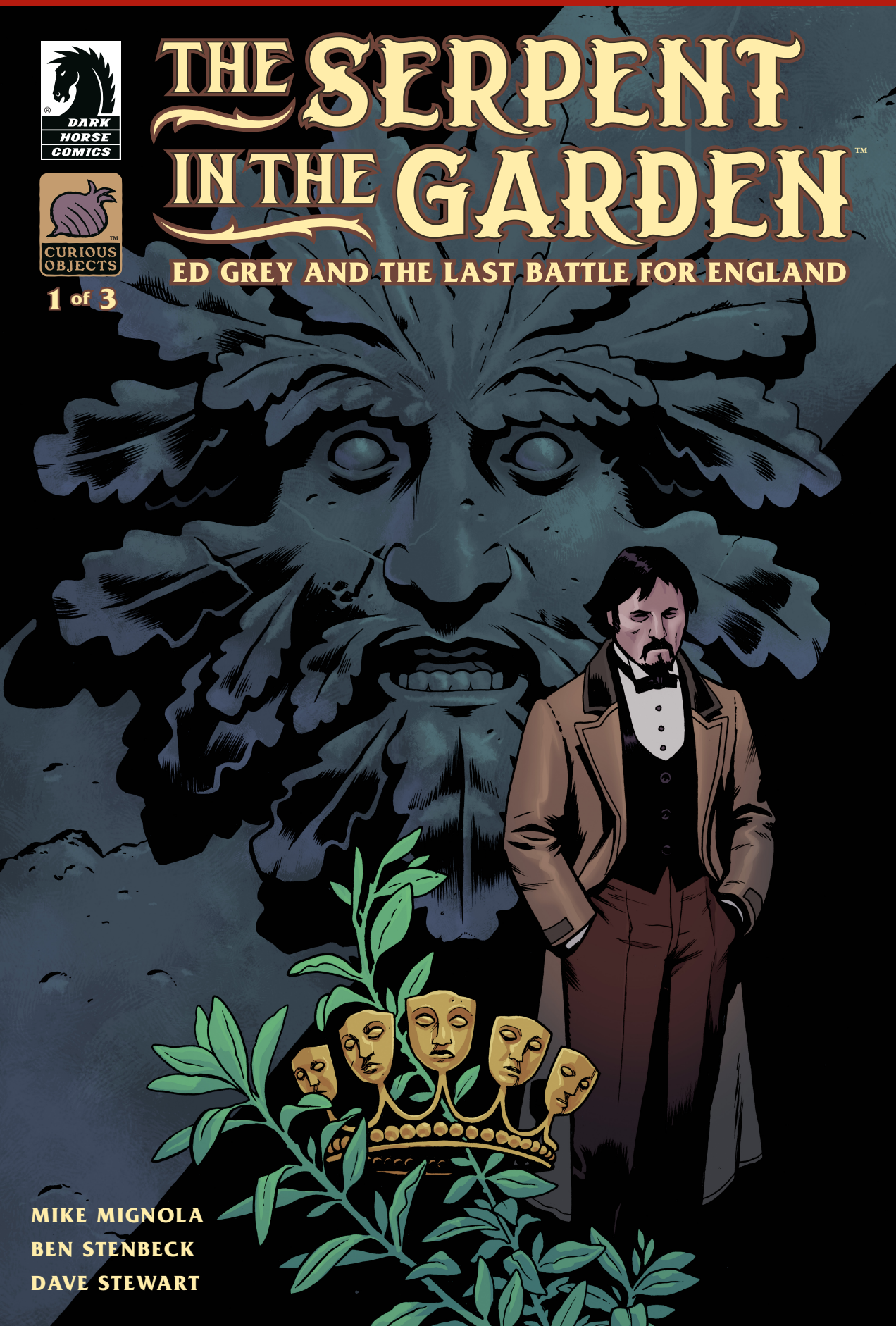
DARK HORSE COMICS

CURIOUS OBJECTS

1 of 3

THE SERPENT IN THE GARDEN™

ED GREY AND THE LAST BATTLE FOR ENGLAND



MIKE MIGNOLA
BEN STENBECK
DAVE STEWART

THE SERPENT IN THE GARDEN™

ED GREY AND THE LAST BATTLE FOR ENGLAND

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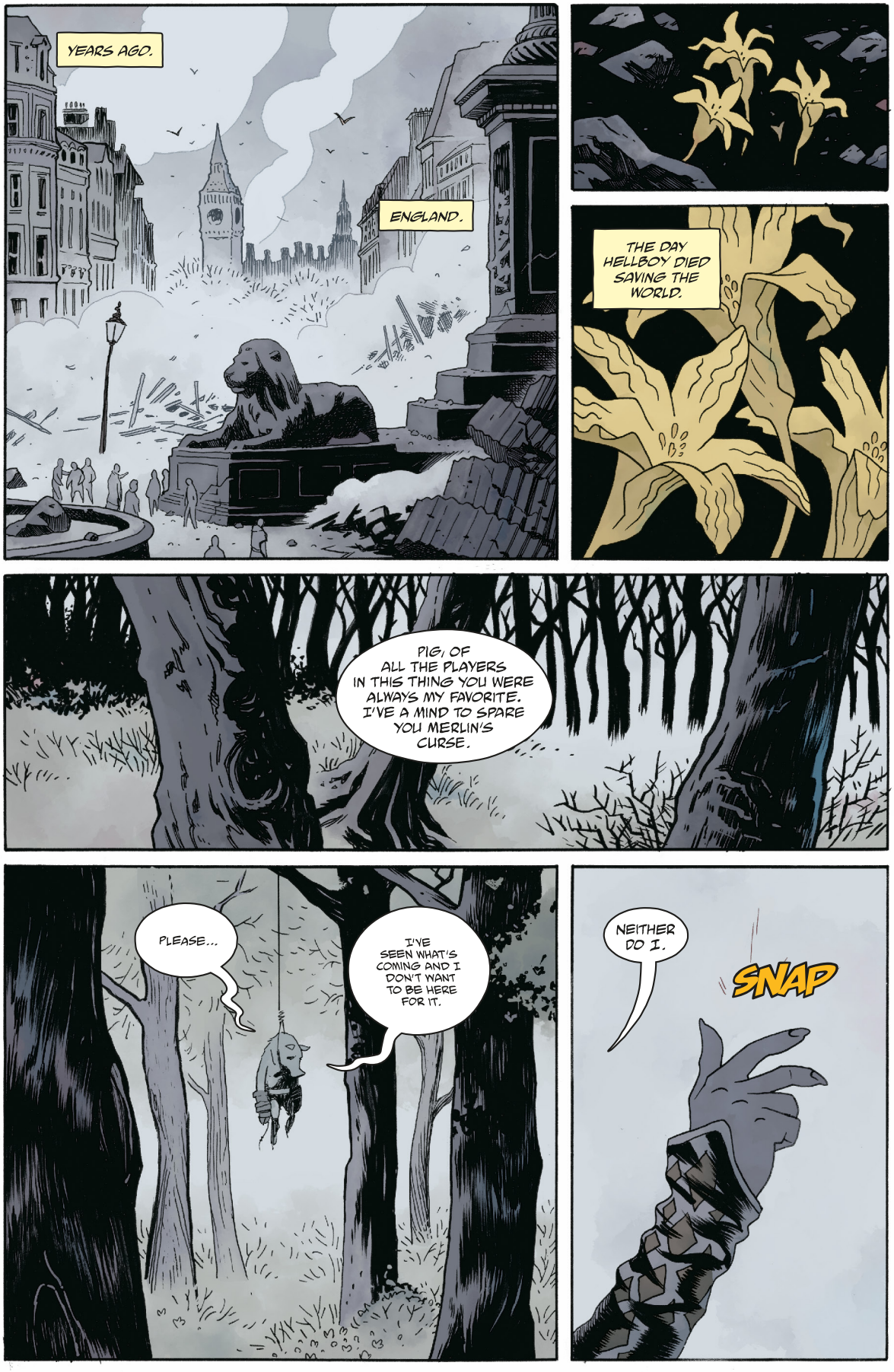

YEARS AGO.
ENGLAND.
THE DAY HELLBOY DIED SAVING THE WORLD.
PIG, OF ALL THE PLAYERS IN THIS THING YOU WERE ALWAYS MY FAVORITE. I'VE A MIND TO SPARE YOU MERLIN'S CURSE.
PLEASE...
I'VE SEEN WHAT'S COMING AND I DON'T WANT TO BE HERE FOR IT.
NEITHER DO I.
SNAP

YOU'LL HAVE TO COME WITH ME.
WHERE?
YOU KNOW.
WHERE SUCH AS YOU AND I MUST ALWAYS GO IN THE END.
IS IT FAR?
NOT AS THE CROW FLIES.
IT FEELS FAR.

HOW LONG?
TWO HUNDRED YEARS.
WHAT DID I MISS?
HELLBOY DIED.
SON OF A--
"CAME BACK TO LIFE AGAIN..."
SON OF A--

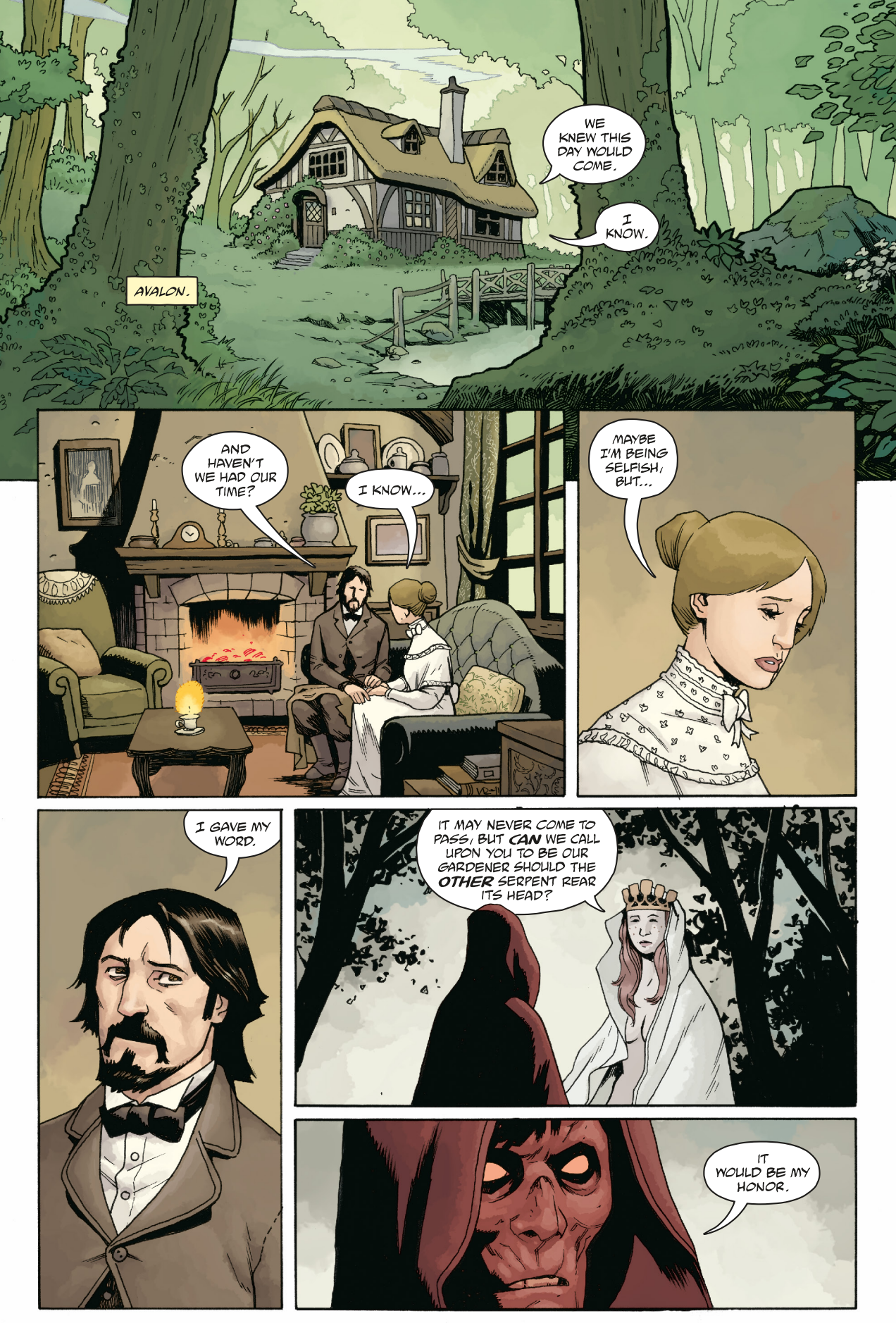
"...AND THEN DIED AGAIN."
IN THE END HELLBOY LOOSED THE FIRE...
TO CONSUME THE WORLD.
AHH!

ALL GONE SAVE ONLY HER MOST SACRED PLACE...
"AVALON."
AS IT WAS WHEN I WAS YOUNG...BUT HOW?

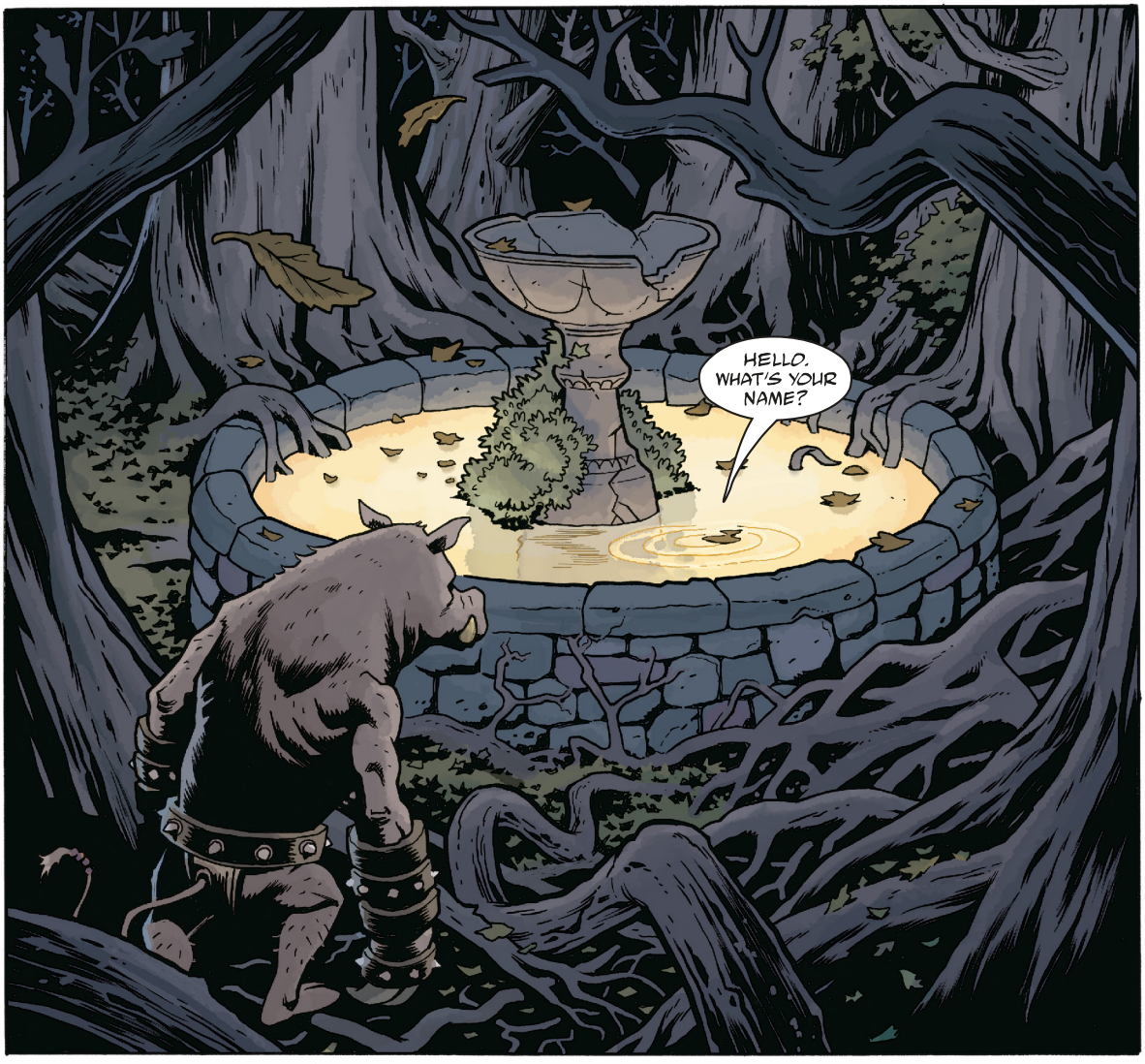
HELLBOY'S BLOOD. HIS SACRIFICE.
AVALON.
THEN ALICE IS QUEEN.
SHE IS.
SHE FOUGHT FOR IT...
"SHE EARNED HER CROWN."
WHO?
ALICE MONAGHAN.
YOU MET HER BEFORE.
"ALICE..."

I REMEMBER...
"THAT WAS THE DAY HELLBOY BURNED ME WITH IRON."
WHERE'S THAT BABY?
SQUEEE!
YES, YES, AND YOU SWORE REVENGE AND ALL THOSE TERRIBLE THINGS HAPPENED--LET'S NOT GET STARTED WITH ALL THAT AGAIN.
BUT... ALICE?
A HUMAN BABY--HOW CAN SHE BE QUEEN?
IT SHOULD BE YOU.
WELL, FOR ONE THING, SHE'S NOT A BABY ANYMORE--
PLEASE!
RESTORE MY POWERS. MAKE ME WHOLE AGAIN AND I WILL BE YOUR CHAMPION.

HMM. I HADN'T CONSIDERED...
IT WOULDN'T BE EASY...
ONLY MAKE ME WHAT I WAS, THEN DARE ANYTHING--FLESH OR DEVIL--TO BAR MY WAY. I'LL MAKE YOU QUEEN AGAIN, I SWEAR!
QUEEN...
PIG, LEAVE ME A WHILE TO THINK.
EDWARD GREY...


AVALON.
WE KNEW THIS DAY WOULD COME.
I KNOW.
AND HAVEN'T WE HAD OUR TIME?
I KNOW...
MAYBE I'M BEING SELFISH, BUT...
I GAVE MY WORD.
IT MAY NEVER COME TO PASS, BUT CAN WE CALL UPON YOU TO BE OUR GARDENER SHOULD THE OTHER SERPENT REAR ITS HEAD?
IT WOULD BE MY HONOR.

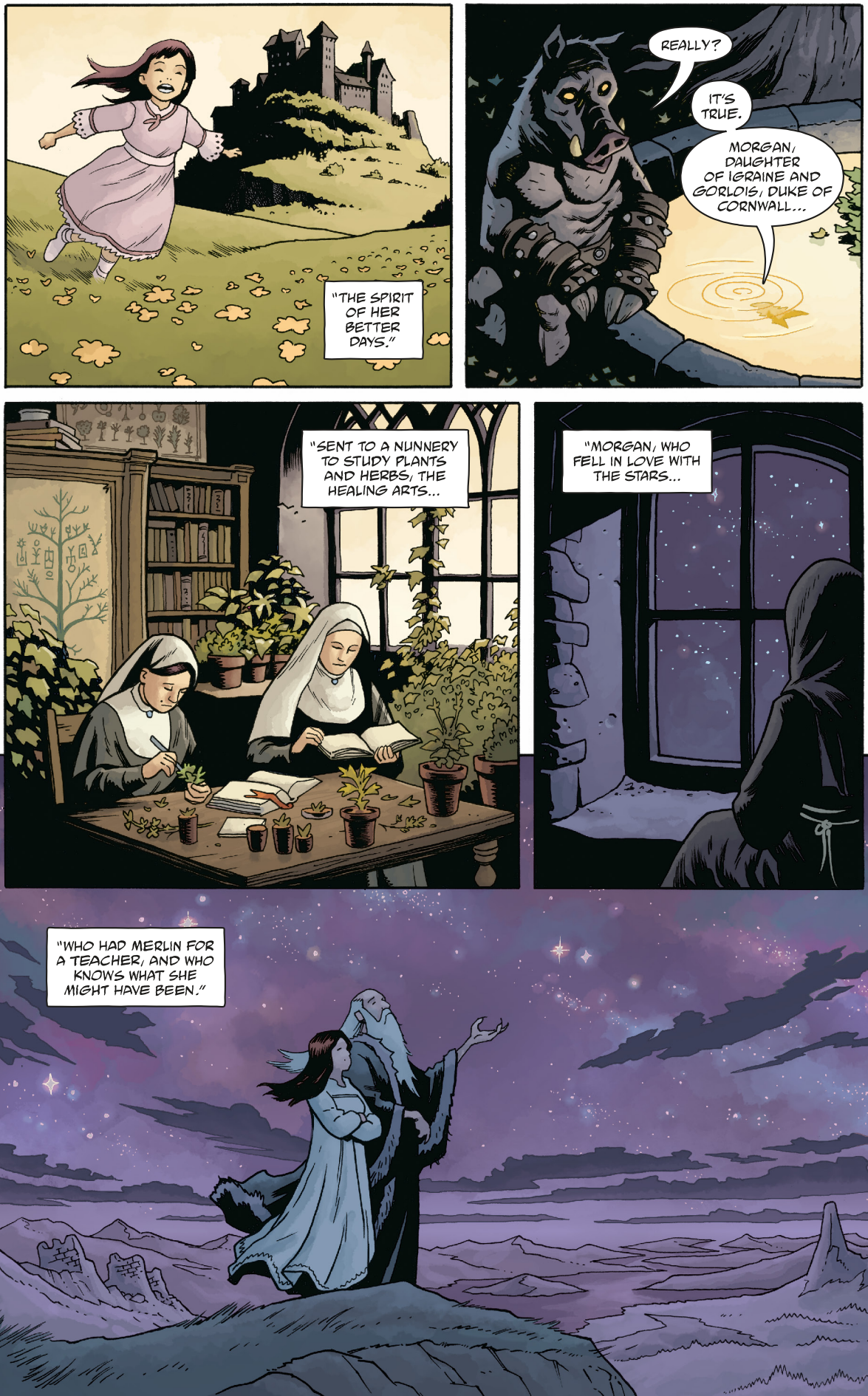
I LOVE YOU, MARY. I'LL BE BACK.
SWEAR IT.
YOU KNOW I WOULD IF I COULD.
I'LL DO MY BEST.


HELLO. WHAT'S YOUR NAME?

I AM THE GRUAGACH OF LOUGH LEAN-- OR RATHER I WAS.
WHO ARE YOU?

SHE CALLS ME HER SISTER...

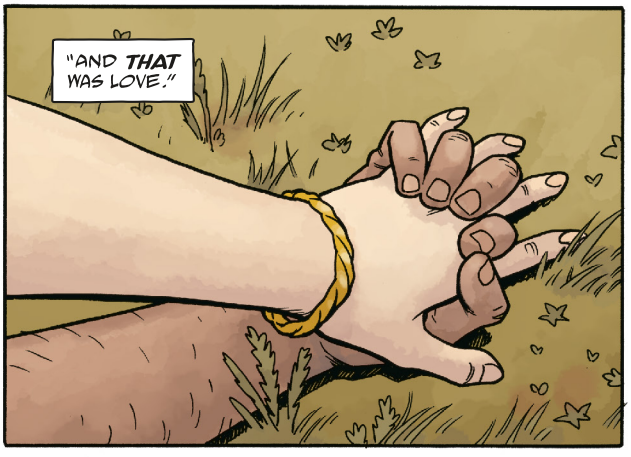
"BUT REALLY I AM MORGAN HERSELF, HER YOUNGER SELF...
"HER SOUL..."


"THE SPIRIT OF HER BETTER DAYS."
REALLY?
IT'S TRUE.
MORGAN, DAUGHTER OF IGRAINE AND GORLOIS, DUKE OF CORNWALL...
"SENT TO A NUNNERY TO STUDY PLANTS AND HERBS, THE HEALING ARTS...
"MORGAN, WHO FELL IN LOVE WITH THE STARS...
"WHO HAD MERLIN FOR A TEACHER, AND WHO KNOWS WHAT SHE MIGHT HAVE BEEN."

"BUT, OF COURSE, MERLIN WAS A FOOL AND IN THE END SHE LOST HIM TO NIMUE.

"MORGAN WAS MARRIED OFF TO URIEN, KING OF GORRE."
HE WASN'T A BAD MAN. HE MADE HER A QUEEN AND THEY WERE HAPPY ENOUGH-- BUT SHE WAS YOUNG AND HE WAS OLD...

"AND ONE DAY SHE MET ACCOLON OF GAUL...

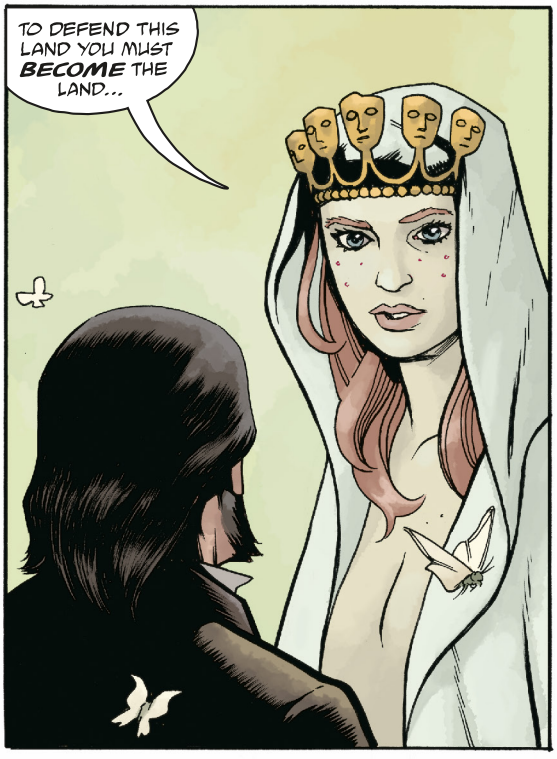

"AND *THAT* WAS LOVE."

BUT THEN ACCOLON WAS KILLED BY ARTHUR...

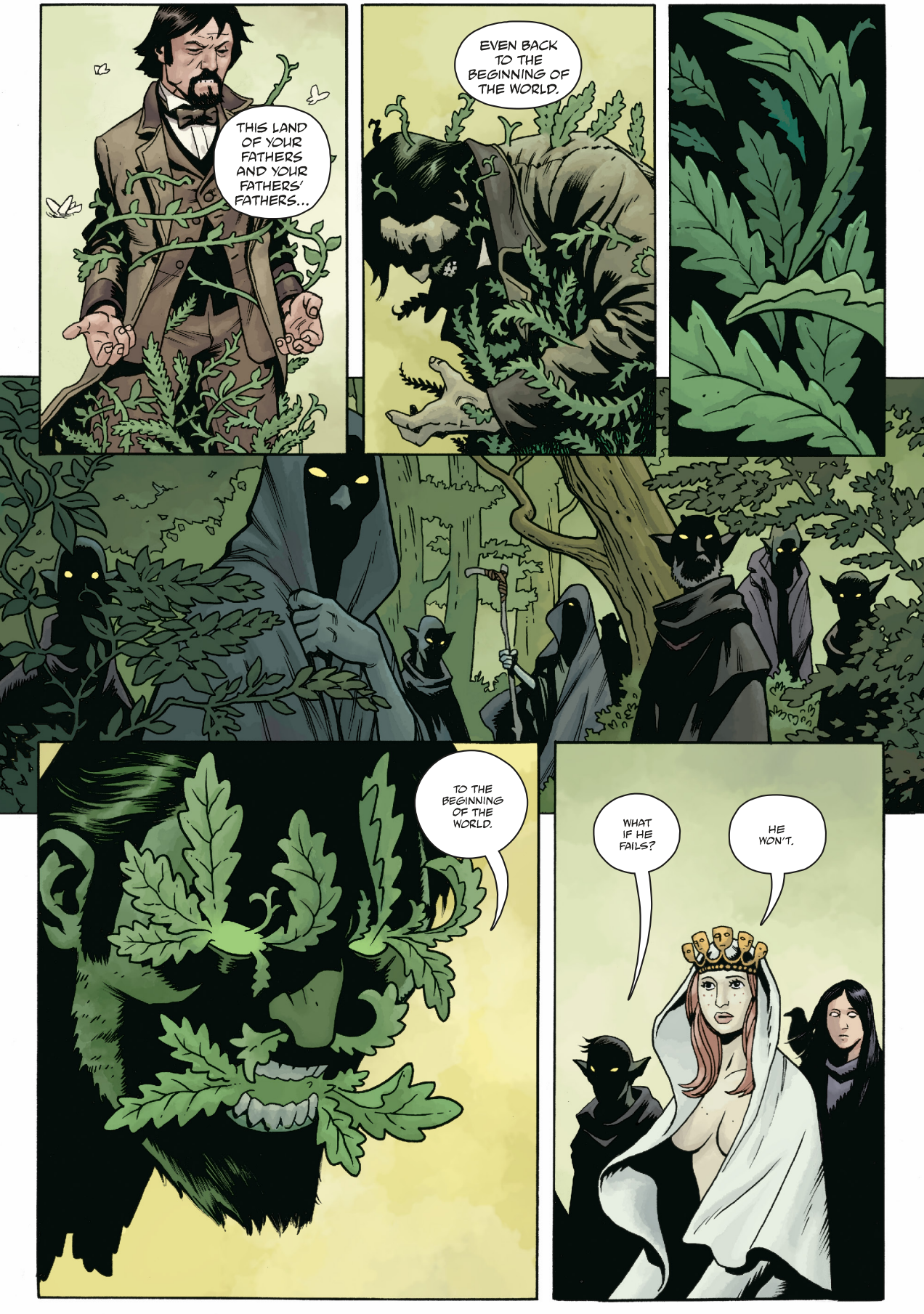
"AND SHE HAD TO PART WITH ME, TO DEVOTE HERSELF TO BLACK MAGIC...
"TO BE ALL REVENGE...
"TO SEDUCE ARTHUR...
"TO GIVE BIRTH TO MORDRED..."

"WHO WOULD SLAY ARTHUR AT THE BATTLE OF CAMLANN."
FATHER.
SON.
SHE HAS ALWAYS WANTED THAT CROWN--NEVER SATISFIED TO BE QUEEN OF GORRE, SHE HAS EVER WANTED ALL BRITAIN, AS IT WAS AND HAS ALWAYS BEEN...
AVALON.

EDWARD GREY, ARE YOU READY NOW TO STAND FOR YOUR QUEEN?
I AM.


TO DEFEND THIS LAND YOU MUST BECOME THE LAND...

BOUND TO IT...


THIS LAND OF YOUR FATHERS AND YOUR FATHERS' FATHERS...
EVEN BACK TO THE BEGINNING OF THE WORLD.
TO THE BEGINNING OF THE WORLD.
WHAT IF HE FAILS?
HE WON'T.

RISE, CHAMPION OF AVALON.
YOUR MAJESTY.
ELSEWHERE...

TO BE CONTINUED...